

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:CONGRESSIONAL REACTION TO YOUR LUSAKA SPEECH

FOR SECRETARY FROM MCCLOSKEY

1. UNUSUALLY FOCUSSED CONGRESSIONAL AND MEDIA
ATTENTION TO YOUR LUSAKA SPEECH DEVELOPED TODAY.

2. CONGRESSIONAL COMMENT BEGAN EARLY WITH PERCY LEADING
THE FIELD WITH NETWORK COMMENTARY THAT IT "WILL SIGNAL
IN MY JUDGMENT A NEW REALISM OF POLICY IN AFRICA. FOR
THE FIRST TIME, THE UNITED STATES WILL CLEARLY ALIGN
ITSELF WITH THE ASPIRATION OF AFRICAN PEOPLES AND
MAJORITY." CLARK FOLLOWED WITH AN EXTENSIVE STATEMENT
WHICH LARRY SENT TO YOU SEPARATELY.

3. MCGEE ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE WHICH STATED, "THE
SECRETARY SPELLED OUT A POLICY WHICH OFFERS THE CHANCE
FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE SERIOUS AND POTENTIALLY
EXPLOSIVE POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. IT IS
A POLICY WHICH DEMANDS THE BIPARTISAN SUPPORT OF BOTH THE
US CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE
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IS TO CONTINUE THE PAST TOWARDS A VIOLENT AND BLOODY

RACE WAR IN THAT REGION OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT."

4. MEMBERS OF THE BLACK CAUCUS MET THIS AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS THE SPEECH AND ARE CURRENTLY DRAFTING A PRESS STATEMENT. RALPH MEDCALF AND PARREN MITCHELL MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS:

- (A) THEY PRAISED THE 10 POINT PROGRAM FOR RHODESIA;
- (B) THEY CONTENDED THAT THE POINTS ON SOUTH AFRICA ARE WEAK;
- (C) THEY AWAIT A LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE TO INITIATE SOME INITIATIVES MENTIONED;
- (D) THAT THE COMMENTS ON THE NAMIBIA WERE SOUND BUT DIDN'T GO FAR ENOUGH.

ANDY YOUNG ADDED: "HAD THE SPEECH BEEN DELIVERED TWO YEARS AGO IT WOULD HAVE MADE HISTORY, BUT IT WAS GOOD." THE COUNTRIES IN SOUTH AFRICA WERE PERHAPS TOO COMMITTED TO VIOLENCE AT THIS JUNCTURE TO BE TURNED AROUND BY YOUR SPEECH." HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT WE COULD DEFEAT THE BYRD AMENDMENT GIVEN TWO WEEKS LEADTIME. DIGGS' OFFICE INFORMED US THAT DIGGS "THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD ONE." RANGLE SAID IT WAS "A GOOD SPEECH BUT THAT HE WANTED TO SEE WHAT ACTIONS WOULD RESULT."

5. CONGRESSMAN BINGHAM DESCRIBED IT AS A LANDMARK AND WAS DELIGHTED TO SEE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION INTENDS TO REVIVE THE EFFORT TO REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT. BINGHAM WILL ISSUE A PRESS RELEASE TONIGHT.

6. SENATOR GRAVEL PROMISED TO ISSUE A PRESS RELEASE AND SAID, "I AM 100 PERCENT WITH THE SECRETARY, WHICH I WILL MAKE CLEAR AT NAIROBI."

7. RIBICOFF PRAISED YOUR STATEMENT AND PROMISED TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT YOU AT NAIROBI.

8. SFRC STAFF TELLS US THE ENTIRE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP CAN BE EXPECTED TO SUPPORT YOUR NEWLY ENUNCIATED AFRICAN POLICY. PERCY PLANS TO INTRODUCE A RESOLUTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO THIS EFFECT.

9. SO FAR, WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM THE PREDICTABLE OPPONENTS, ALTHOUGH ALLEGHENY LUDLOW STEEL CORPORATION CALLED THE SFRC STAFF IN ALARM AT THE PROSPECT OF ANOTHER ADMINISTRATION EFFORT TO REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT.

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